

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 4-5, 10, 16, 19, 22, and 24.

Please amend the claims as follows.

1-8 (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method for reconfiguring an identified ~~I/O~~ Input/Output (I/O) resource in a computer system that includes a plurality of logical partitions managed by a partition manager executing separately from the plurality of logical partitions, the plurality of logical partitions comprising at least one logical partition that owns the identified I/O resource and at least one logical partition that does not own the identified I/O resource, the method comprising the steps of:

(1) the partition manager detecting ~~when the identified I/O requires reconfiguration~~ a hardware state in the computer system that requires reconfiguration of the identified I/O resource;

(2) the partition manager suspending all of the plurality of logical partitions by inhibiting dispatch of tasks to all of the plurality of logical partitions and waiting until all pending tasks in all of the plurality of logical partitions are complete;

(3) the partition manager reconfiguring the identified I/O resource; and

(4) the partition manager resuming all of the plurality of logical partitions by enabling dispatch of tasks to all of the plurality of logical partitions.

10-22 (Cancelled)

23. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method for rebalancing an ~~I/O~~ Input/Output (I/O) loop in a computer system that includes a plurality of logical partitions managed by a partition manager executing separately from the plurality of logical partitions, the method comprising the steps of:

- (1) detecting when the I/O loop is unbalanced;
- (2) quiescing I/O resources in the I/O loop;
- (3) determining which of the plurality of logical partitions own the I/O resources in the I/O loop;
- (4) suspending the logical partitions determined in step (3);
- (5) rebalancing the I/O loop by allocating at least one I/O resource in the I/O loop from a first logical partition to a second logical partition;
- (6) enabling the I/O resources in the I/O loop after rebalancing in step (5); and
- (7) resuming the logical partitions suspended in step (4).

24. (Cancelled)

STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-21 were originally filed in this patent application. In response to the first office action dated 8/30/2005, applicant filed an amendment on 11/30/2005 that cancelled claims 12, 13, 17, 18, 20 and 21 and amended claims 1, 4-6, 9-11, 16 and 19. In response to the second office action dated 02/06/2006, an RCE and Amendment were filed on 05/04/2006. In response to the third office action dated 07/12/2006, an amendment was filed on 10/11/2006 that amended claims 1, 4-6, 9-11, 16 and 19. In response to the fourth office action dated 12/04/2006, an RCE and Amendment were filed on 03/02/2007 that cancelled claims 2-3, 7-8, and 14-15. In response to the fifth office action dated 03/27/2007 claims 1, 6, and 11 were cancelled and claims 22-24 were added. In response to the sixth office action, an amendment were filed on 9/17/2007 that amended claims 23 and 24. An RCE was filed on 10/16/2007. In the pending seventh office action dated 12/26/2007, claims 4-5, 9-10, 16, 19, and 22-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph. Claims 4-5, 9-10, 16, 19, and 22-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Claims 4-5, 9-10, 16, 19, and 22-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application Publication 2003/0084030 to Day *et al.* (hereinafter “Day”) in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication 2002/0112102 to Tarui *et al.* (hereinafter “Tarui”), and further in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication 2003/0163641 to Kaneko. No claim was allowed. Claims 9 and 23 have been amended, and claims 4-5, 10, 16, 19, 22, and 24 have been cancelled herein. Claims 9 and 23 are currently pending.